

Appl. No. 09/000,004
Amendment dated April 18, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Jan. 21, 2003

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed January 21, 2003, has been received and carefully reviewed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims of the above-identified application is respectfully requested. Claims 31, 32, 47 and 48 have been amended to recite analyzing using antibodies. No new matter has been added.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claims 31-34, 43-48 and 52 are rejected as being indefinite. The independent claims have been amended to encompass only the elected embodiment.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claim 48 is rejected as being unpatentable over Setty et al. and over Rozzo et al. Claim 48 has been amended to include the $\alpha 1$ and $\alpha 2$ reference standards previously recited in dependent claim 52. Neither Setty et al. nor Rozzo et al. teaches or suggests a kit comprising the antibodies and standards of amended claim 48. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

It is respectfully submitted that each of the presently pending claims is in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the below-listed telephone number, if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted,

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